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not appear to be at all constant), so that it does not seem to be worth while to recognize the present fern even as a variety.

Pteris aquilina, L.—A year or two ago, Mrs. S. M. Piper sent me a curiously curled and twisted form of this species which she found growing in Sandisfield, Mass., in 1877; and later on I received indirectly from Jackson Dawson, of the Bussey Institute, specimens of the same form from cultivated plants, which were originally found by him growing in open meadow-land in Georgetown, Mass. The plants had been observed by Mr. Dawson for several successive seasons in considerable abundance, and those taken up by him had since retained their peculiar character.

A similar form has been found many times in England, where it is known as the var. *crispa* of Wollaston, and its occurrence in this country is interesting as a matter of record. Moore describes two forms of it, one with "*undulate and reflexed margins*," and the other with "*crenate and wavy margins*." Deakin figured a portion of it in *Florigraphia Britannica*, but—very judiciously as it seems to me—did not recognize it as a variety. The plants of this form which I have seen are dwarfed in habit, and their whole appearance indicates an unhealthy, diseased vitality, which, however, might possibly be restored to its normally healthy condition by a special course of treatment adapted to its needs.

A rich Fern-Field.—The presence of *Pellaea aspera*, *P. pulchella*, *P. flexuosa*, *Cheilanthes leucopoda*, *C. microphylla*, typical *Notholaena candida*, *N. sinuata* and *Aneimia Mexicana* in a package containing some imperfect specimens from Uvalde Cañon, Texas, indicates a region that would well repay exploration by some keen-eyed collector, and it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when the treasures which this list reveals will be made available for distribution.

Florida Ferns.—Mr. A. H. Curtiss has sent me some very interesting notes on the Florida Ferns which he has collected during his explorations in that State, and later on I may give some extracts from them. The "good things" which this very careful and thoroughly systematic collector has in store for those who receive his fascicles for 1882 will shortly appear, and give others no less pleasure than a knowledge of them has given me.*

Medford, Mass., March, 1882.

Notes on New England Algae.—The following species, observed by the writer, are either new to this region or are from other localities than those given in Prof. Farlow's *Manual of the Marine Algae of New England*. To the author of that model work the writer is much indebted for assistance in identification, etc., as well as for many similar kindnesses on former occasions.

Rivularia Warreniae, Thuret.—I found this species in August and September 1881, at Marblehead, Mass., where it grew on a rock, above high-water mark, but where the spray formed little pools in

* Mt. Washington, given as the station for *Aspidium Filix-mas* in my account, in the February BULLETIN, of Mr. Pringle's discovery of that fern in Arizona, should have been Mt. Wrightson.

rough weather. The thallus is brownish-olive, in form and consistency somewhat resembling *R. plicata*, Carm., but of different microscopical structure. It is the *Schizosiphon Warreniae* of the Phycologia Britannica, and has not before been reported in America.

Palmella rupestris, Lyngb.—In August, 1880, I found at Hunnewell's Point, Maine, in a locality very much like that of the *Rivularia* just mentioned, a small quantity of this species. It was in a soft jelly-like mass, which contained several other minute algae. This species also has not been previously found in this country.

Porphyra leucosticta, Thuret, I found at Nahant in June, 1879. It was very abundant at that time, the water being almost full of it; but, though I have often visited the locality since, at the same and other seasons of the year, I have never seen it again. It is easily distinguished from the omnipresent *P. laciniata*, Ag., by its softer consistency and delicate rose-purple color; and the microscopic structure is quite distinct, the antheridia forming small spots among the spore-cells, and not a distinct marginal zone. It is a more southern species than *P. laciniata*, and occurs throughout most of Europe. It has not yet been recorded for our Atlantic coast, though Prof. Farlow, in his Manual, considers its occurrence here probable.

At the same time and place that I collected this species, I found a single plant which I think may be identical with the

Ectocarpus brachiatus, Harv., of the Nereis Boreali-Americana. The localities there given are South Boston and Lynn, Mass., and Prof. Farlow, in his work quoted, states that it is known in this country only by Harvey's description. My plant agrees quite well with an authentic specimen of *E. Griffithsianus*, Le Jolis (*E. brachiatus*, Harv.), but, according to Bornet (Études Phycologiques, p. 16, note), the structure of this species agrees rather with the genus *Phloeospora*, Areschoug, it having, especially in the larger filaments, a cortical layer of quadrate cells, arranged in regular series. He proposes for it the name of *Phloeospora brachiata*, under which name it would be the only representative of the genus yet found in this country.

Monostruma Blyttii, Wittr., the largest of our species of the genus, is reported in the Manual as growing luxuriantly at Eastport, Maine, but reaching its southern limit at Nahant, occurring there in a reduced form, not generally more than two or three inches long. This diminished size at Nahant is confirmed by my experience, as I have found few specimens there exceeding the dimensions just given; but, rather curiously, at Revere Beach, just south of Nahant, it occurs in October and November in abundance, the fronds sometimes more than a foot high and proportionately broad, growing on shells and pebbles near low-water mark.

Monostruma crepidinum, Farlow, a species founded on a plant growing at Wood's Holl, on the piles of the Government wharf, I found at Juniper Point, Salem, last August. As at Wood's Holl, it grew on the piles of a wharf, near low-water mark, and it seems probable that it might be found in similar stations along the coast, escaping the notice of collectors from its resemblance to the *Ulvas* so abundant in such places.

Myrionema Leclancherii, Harv., on record at Gay Head only, I have found at Marblehead; and

Gracilaria multipartita, Ag., known north of Cape Cod only in the interesting locality at Goose Cove, Squam, is plentiful in the Mystic River marshes, near Boston.

Saccorhiza dermatodea, De la Pyl., I found growing just below low-water mark round a little island off Marblehead, and I picked up a number of fronds washed ashore at Marblehead Neck; they were nearly, if not quite as large as specimens that I collected in Portland Harbor, Me.

Malden, Mass., March 8, 1882.

FRANK S. COLLINS.

Ophioglossum nudicaule, L. fil.—The *Ophioglossum* collected by Dr. Parry and Mr. Cleveland in San Diego, California, in March and April, proves to be this species, rather than *O. vulgatum*.

The specimens collected in March were too immature to permit of a positive identification, but those which have been collected since are nearly mature, and are certainly nearer to *O. nudicaule* than to any other species.

Some of Dr. Parry's April specimens suggested *O. Lusitanicum* to me, but others in a more advanced state of maturity, since received from Mr. Cleveland, agree very well with *O. nudicaule*, and justify Prof. Eaton's suggestion (*in litt.*) that they belong to that species.

The California specimens are somewhat larger, and, for the most part, more fleshy than my Florida specimens, but show the characteristic disposition of this species to develop two or more fronds from the same root-stock.

In one of Mr. Cleveland's specimens, a root branches in opposite directions, forming a single horizontal rootlet on which two young plants arise from buds produced full three inches apart. The plants vary from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height. In most specimens the fleshiness of the lamina wholly obscures the venation, but in others apparently becomes thinner and more membranaceous from age. The venation may be distinctly seen by holding the specimen to the light. The fertile branch arises from the base of the lamina; and the fruit-spike, which is raised on a foot-stalk half the length of the plant itself, bears from 10 to 20 sporangia. Both laminae and fruit-spikes exhibit a tendency toward acuminate apices, though not in so marked a degree as in my Florida specimens.

This species has heretofore been recorded in the United States only from the South Atlantic and Gulf States, and its present discovery (or re-discovery, as it was originally collected in San Diego, by Dr. Parry in 1850, when the specimens were unfortunately lost before being identified) so far away from this region is a most interesting one which may lead to the detection of intervening stations.

As suggested by Mr. Cleveland, some close ground work, with keen eyes, at the right seasons of the year, will probably show that this fern is not so rare as generally supposed.

My thanks are due, both to Dr. Parry and Mr. Cleveland, for specimens in different stages of maturity. A note from the latter, just at hand, states that the little fern is already disappearing, thus